



GAV 2824

PATENT  
450100-4465.1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Takumi OKAUE et al.  
Serial No. : 09/467,221  
Filed : December 20, 1999  
For : EXTERNAL STORAGE APPARATUS AND CONTROL APPARATUS  
THEREOF, AND DATA TRANSMISSION/RECEPTION  
APPARATUS.  
Art Unit : 2824

5th Prior Art  
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Date of Signature

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in  
37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicants are filing this Information Disclosure  
Statement and the accompanying form PTO-1449 along with copies of  
the prior art therein identified. English abstracts of some of  
this prior art also are enclosed.



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Following is a brief explanation of the relevance of the two Japanese patent applications for which English translations have not been provided:

Published Japanese application 3-124397 describes a RAM card (i.e. a memory card) having a slidable write protect switch, shown more particularly in Fig. 4.

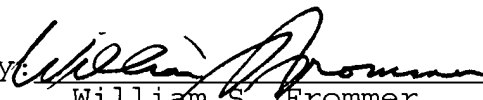
Published Japanese application 62-48097 likewise describes a memory card with a slidable write protect switch 2, as shown in Fig. 1.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the documents identified herein constitute prior art to the present application.

So far as applicants are aware, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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